

City of Marquette: Attracting People Back to Downtown

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Awards: All America City 2003, Top 100 Small Arts Towns in the U.S. 2004, Bike Magazine Top 5 Places to Live and Bike in the U.S.

Vision: The Premiere Livable Winter City in North America

Assets: Unique location

- On the shores of Lake Superior
- Natural environment

City center and regional provider:

- Government: city, county, federal
- Education
- Health care
- Shopping and services – unique shops and restaurants
- Nightlife and entertainment

Culture:

- Performing arts
- Visual arts
- Museums and interactive experiences
- National and local heritage festivals
- Events
- Community collaborations, art projects and art shows

The Marquette Arts and Culture Department serves to encourage, develop and facilitate an enriched environment of artistic, creative and cultural activity in Marquette and act as an umbrella organization for local arts and cultural organizations.

- City of Marquette Arts and Culture Department formed in 1994
- City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center opened in 2000
- 7800 Square foot space in partnership with the Peter White Public Library
- Regional provider of arts and cultural services

Historic downtown Marquette overall vision

- Downtown is the strong center of our city
- Economic development within the downtown
- Connection to the lake

Strategic public investment to support private investment

- Parking lots and walkways
- Downtown Commons
- Residential/Multi-Use Examples: Deo Building (MSDHA), Vonck Building, Levine Building

Strategic land purchases and development

- Former railroad right-of-way and adjacent property
- “ South Rail Yards”

Collaborations & partnerships

- City of Marquette
 - Arts and Culture Department
 - Downtown Development Authority
 - Peter White Public Library
- State of Michigan
 - Michigan Economic Development Authority
 - Michigan State Housing Authority
 - Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs
- Downtown Marquette Association
- Northern Michigan University
- Local businesses